(c) and (d) Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has, at present, one Integrated Steel Plant at Bokaro in Jharkhand and SAIL intends to increase the crude steel capacity of Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) from the present level of 4.2 Million Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA) (2005-06) to 7 MTPA (Hot metal 4.7 MTPA to 7.44 MTPA) by 2010. In addition, plans are also being formulated to set-up a Green Field Steel Plant initially for 6 MTPA and to be expanded further.

For the expansion plan of Bokaro Steel Plant, new green field steel plant in Jharkhand and IISCO Steel Plant (ISP) at Burnpur, the iron ore requirement for next 50 years will be 2248 MT. For the availability of iron ore for these capacities, Chiria and Gua mines would be the main source.

SAIL has applied for renewal of mining leases of Chiria to the Government of Jharkhand.

**Iron-ore by BSP**

†1330. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total years for which Bhilai Steel Plant is capable of providing iron-ore from its own iron-ore mines;

(b) the role of SAIL in putting forward Rowghat Yojana (Scheme);

(c) whether the raw material being received through Rajhara-Durg rail route is sufficient in quantity and is being received at proper speed; and

(d) if not, the measures/scheme being adopted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) It is estimated that Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) can get Iron Ore from its Dalli-Rajhara Mines, for the next 4 years fully and another 4-5 years partially.

(b) SAIL is in the process of obtaining necessary statutory clearances from various agencies of the Central and State Government for mining lease for Rowghat. The project would be ready for production in a time

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

span of 4 to 5 years after obtaining statutory clearances and has the potential to provide Iron Ore supply for another 30 years for Bhilai Steel Plant.

(c) and (d) The raw material received through Rajhara-Durg rail route is adequate to meet the present requirement of the Plant. However, initiatives are being taken by the Indian Railways for upgradation of the rail line.

**Taking over of MECON by SAIL**

1331. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal for taking over M/s MECON by Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL);

(b) if so, the progress made, so far, in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government for taking over of MECON Ltd. by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).

(c) MECON is an independent Public Sector Enterprise, engaged in consultancy and project management jobs in a wide ranging fields like Metal, Power, Oil and Gas. MECON is also a leading metallurgical consultant in the country offering its services to steel units, both in public and private sectors. Therefore, independent status of MECON Limited is necessary for overall benefit of the industry as a whole.

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12.00 NOON

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

**Accounts (2005-06) of Coir Board, Kochi and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): Sir, I lay on the table the following papers:—